



# INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL OF NEVADA, INC.

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February 16, 2021

Ellen Wheatly

Acting Director of the Office of Child Care (OCC)

Administration on Children & Families

330 C ST SW, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

Washington, DC 20201

Dear OCC Director;

This letter describes how, the Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada (ITCN), Child Care Development Fund Program (CCDF) plans to use the CCDF award under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA). We understand that this description will be used for the purpose of informing the Office of Child Care (OCC), Administration of Children and Families (ACF) and Congress how our Lead Agency anticipates using the funds to support the child care needs in our jurisdiction.

ITCN CCDF plans to use the CRRSA funds for activities in the following categories:

## **Direct Child Care Services (Subsidies)**

ITCN CCDF plans to use CRRSA funding to support child care services for existing ITCN CCDF eligible families, during and through the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, ITCN CCDF will also provide direct child care services to support the health care sector employees, emergency responders, sanitation workers, farm and other food service workers, and/or other workers deemed essential of frontline during the response to coronavirus as outlined by the Governor of the state of Nevada (<https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/>), and including frontline workers determined and defined by individual tribal governments. ITCN CCDF has developed an application to prioritize children and families whose parents are considered "Essential Workers," as identified and defined by the state of Nevada, as well as those identified and defined by individual Nevada Tribal governments. To qualify, at least one parent/guardian in the home must be listed as an essential worker, and unable to work remotely. The parent/guardian must meet the definitions under the state of Nevada or Tribal governments, and submit proof of employment, or agree to an employment verification along with their application for assistance. ITCN CCDF will accept a pay stub within the most recent 30 days, and/or a letter from their employer. The employer must include the parent/guardian's job title, standard work hours, and salary and frequency of pay. Once eligibility has been determined, ITCN CCDF will provide a minimum of 12-months of child care assistance to support the essential workforce during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## **Implementation of Virus Mitigation Policies and Practices**

ITCN CCDF plans to use CRRSA funds to provide resources, supplies, and/or technical assistance to child care providers to support implementation of health and safety practices and policies in line with guidance from state and local health departments and The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). ITCN CCDF will use funding to purchase health and safety supplies, including; personal protective equipment, temperature check equipment, electronic equipment, cleaning/sanitation products, barriers, and other items to decrease and slow the spread of COVID-19, in all child care settings and homes. In addition, ITCN CCDF will use funding to provide technical assistance and support to providers and tribal governments to develop and implement health and safety practices

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BUSINESS COUNCIL  
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FALLON BUSINESS  
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LAS VEGAS PAIUTE  
TRIBAL COUNCIL  
LOVELOCK TRIBAL  
COUNCIL  
MOAPA BUSINESS  
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TRIBAL COUNCIL  
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TRIBAL COUNCIL  
SOUTH FORK  
BAND COUNCIL  
STEWART  
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TRIBE  
WALKER RIVER  
PAIUTE TRIBAL  
COUNCIL  
WASHOE TRIBAL  
COUNCIL  
WELLS BAND  
COUNCIL  
WINNEMUCCA  
COLONY COUNCIL  
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and policies and tribal child care reopening plans. Additional funding will be provided in form of mini-grants to support child care providers in all settings, and to assist emergency child care providers to ensure the health and safety of all children in care in guidance with the State of Nevada, local health departments and the CDC.

**Grants or Assistance (Other than Subsidies) to Stabilize Child Care Providers**

ITCN CCDF plans to use CRRSA funds to support the stability of the child care sector to help child care providers (program facilities and workforce) pay for increased operating expenses during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing mini-grants or fiscal assistance to support the tribal child care workers, staff, facility operating expenses, home and licensed providers to ensure continuation of child care services and availability through the pandemic. ITCN CCDF will also provide hazard pay for exempt child care providers to support their continuing participation and availability.

**Assistance to Providers Non Participating in the Subsidy System Prior to the Pandemic**

ITCN CCDF plans to use a portion of CRRSA funds to provide assistance to CCDF-eligible child care providers not participating in the subsidy system prior to the COVID-19 public health emergency by recruiting non-participating child care providers to increase participating child care providers as an option for families. ITCN CCDF plans to use funding to recruit and provide support for emergency child care providers, as well as, funding to support non-participating child care providers by funding education, training, quality and health and safety supplies, and hazard pay to increase access and availability of child care providers for families.

**Other**

ITCN CCDF plans to use a portion of CRRSA child care funds to support the quality of child care services available by enhancing and improving existing internet and technology (IT) equipment and supplies, infrastructure, systems, and expand internet access to tribal communities by narrowing the digital divide and providing child care providers, families and children with access to the internet and expand tribal, local, state and nationwide information access, participation in early childhood and school-aged services, virtual curriculum, distance learning, virtual health, safety and quality webinars and training, tribal, local and state webinars and virtual meetings, virtual partnerships, remote capabilities, access to health care and mental health services, and expanded access to other tribal, local, regional, state and nationwide news, media, and information. ITCN CCDF will use funding to coordinate and leverage funding with other ITCN and tribal programs and governments to identify existing community needs to support this project. ITCN CCDF will also use funding to establish a local food pantry/resource center and COVID/Food Pantry Coordinator position. Lastly, ITCN CCDF will use CRRSA funding to plan, enhance and expand existing or future learning centers and outdoor play spaces, that meet the new CDC guidelines to promote the health, safety and general welfare of the children and families. If you have any questions, you may contact me by email.

Sincerely,

/s/

Deserea Quintana  
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cc: Paul Noski, Regional Program Manager, Office of Child Care, Region 9  
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